

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 41

By Massey

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mary Lou Horner of Knoxville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Mary Lou Horner; and

WHEREAS, Mary Lou Horner was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Mary Lou Horner served with acumen and alacrity as a Knox County Commissioner, in which position she earned the respect of her colleagues and community alike for the exemplary quality of her work; and

WHEREAS, one of the first women elected to the Knox County Commission in 1976, Ms. Horner resigned from the Commission in 1984 to run for Criminal Court clerk. She was again elected to the Commission in 1986 and served continually until March of 2006, when the Tennessee Supreme Court upheld the right of counties to set term limits; and

WHEREAS, prior to her career in public service, Mary Lou Horner worked as a service representative for South Central Bell and was an active participant in business and community groups, having founded Fountain City Town Hall and serving as president of the Fountain City Business and Professional Association and the organization in Halls; and

WHEREAS, a two-time cancer survivor, Ms. Horner was an active volunteer with the American Cancer Society, the YWCA, where she zealously sold tickets for the Tribute to Women fundraiser, and Keep Knoxville Beautiful; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Horner was an active and devout member of the Central Baptist Church of Fountain City, which she served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, Mary Lou Horner was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Horner was the proud mother of Bobby and mother-in-law of LeAnn;
and

WHEREAS, she is further survived by her grandchildren, Josh, Jason, and Kristen Horner; step-daughter and son-in-law, Victoria and Jeff McKee; and a host of friends; and

WHEREAS, Mary Lou Horner leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Mary Lou Horner, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Ms. Horner.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.